

On page 4 of the English language translation of the German PCT Application, please insert the following heading between the second and third paragraphs of the specification and amend the third paragraph to appear as follows:

Consequently, the object of the invention is to prepare a halogen-free composite film and a process for manufacturing the same, wherein the composite film must satisfy the above-mentioned requirements.

Summary Of The Invention

This object is achieved in that the halogen-free composite film in accordance with the invention includes at least one to N sealable, multi-layered laminated films, wherein N is an integer from 2 to 10. A functional layer and/or a functional element is interposed between the individual laminated films. The individual sealable, multi-layered laminated films are composed of a first and a second film that are bonded together by means of a laminating adhesive or lacquer. The films in the individual laminated films can be identical to and/or different from one another.

On page 6 of the English language translation of the German PCT Application, please amend the first full paragraph to appear as follows:

The following can be used as thermally activated substances, depending on the later use of the composite film: copolyester systems, cyclo-olefin copolymers, polyurethanes, acrylates and derivatives thereof, vinyl acetate copolymers, polyvinyl alcohols, polyvinyl butyrals, polyvinyl acetates, sealable maleic resins, alkyd resins, polyolefins and polyamides. In addition, saturated,

unsaturated, linear and/or branched copolyesters can also be used, such as products from the DYNAPOL line from Degussa. These materials are distinguished by the fact that they are durable yet at the same time are intrinsically flexible, bond well to metals, and have good resistance to chemicals.

On page 7 of the English language translation of the German PCT Application, please insert the following heading between the fifth and sixth paragraphs of the specification, amend the sixth paragraph and add a new seventh and eighth paragraphs to appear as follows:

Moreover, the composite film can be used as a protective film and/or cover film for flexible printed conductors.

Brief Description Of The Drawings

Figure 1 shows the structure of a ribbon cable manufactured in accordance with one embodiment of the composite film.

Figures 2A and 2B show a laminated film according to the present invention with shielding on the inside and a laminated film with shielding on the outside.

Figure 3 is a schematic diagram of a lacquering and laminating system for producing a composite film in accordance with the present invention.

On page 7 of the English language translation of the German PCT Application, please insert the following heading between the sixth and seventh paragraphs of the

specification and amend the seventh paragraph which continues on page 8 to appear as follows:

Figure 1 shows the structure of a ribbon cable that was manufactured with the composite film.

Detailed Description Of The Invention

Referring now to Figure 1, for the manufacture of ribbon cables, two identical or different laminated films A and B are used, which consist of a film 1, a laminating lacquer 2, a film 3 and if applicable a thermally activated substance 4. For the functional layer, a metallic conductor, for example stranded copper wire, is laminated between two strips of the laminated films A and B. The process is performed in such a way that a copper foil is cut into narrow strips on the laminating machine and laminated between the two laminated film strips by hot laminating rollers at temperatures ranging from 150° C to 400° C, preferably 180° C to 280° C. At the laminating station, the two strips of film with the metallic conductor in the intermediate layer are sealed together through pressure and temperature. As a result of this pressure and temperature treatment, the thermally activated substance or sealing film becomes thermoplastic and bonds to the second strip of film.

On page 12 of the English language translation of the German PCT Application, please amend the second full paragraph which continues on page 13 to appear as follows:

Figure 3 shows a schematic representation of the lacquering and laminating system for producing the